

28 *English June 21 1676*
LETTER

Written in

High-Dutch

BY A

DANISH GENTLEMAN

To his Friend in

GERMANY,

Concerning the Imprisonment of *John Adolff Kiel-*
man of Kielmans-Eck, President of State to
the Duke of *Sleswig - Holstein - Gottorp*;
and of his three Sons.



Printed in the Year, 1676.

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Which is

High-Dutch

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GERMAN

To his friend in

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Concerning the Impediments of the said
man of Letters for the Printing of
the Duke of the said
of the said



Printed in the Year 1711

*A Letter Written in High-Dutch by a Danish Gentle-
man to his Friend in Germany, &c.*

SIR,

I Doubt not but it is noised abroad in your parts, how his Majesty of *Denmark and Norway*, our most gracious Sovereign, hath lately secured *John Adolff Kielman* of *Kielmans-Eck*, President of State to the Duke of *Sleswig-Holstein-Gottorp*, together with his three Sons, and caused them to be kept under a severe Imprisonment. I am very inclinable to Believe, that hereof are divers judgments abroad, according to every ones Passion and Interest. Some will rejoyce and say, That now that Golden and long expected time is come, in which Princes eyes are opened to provide for their own and their poor Subjects welfare, by exterminating the Authors of mischief, and by stopping the Trade of those, who, by all manner of unlawful means, have heaped up Mountains of Gold, insomuch that in these miserable times every man may have hope of much better prosperity for the future. Others, on the contrary, will dispraise what is done, and say, that it is a hard and unusual proceeding, to take away by force the faithful Ministers and Counsellors of another Prince, who is ranked among the chiefest of the *Empire*, and hath a Government *cum omni jure territoriali*, distinct from their Lords Towns and Country, and to Imprison them; only because they contended for the interest of their Lord; and as it behooveth faithful Servants,

manifested the wrong which their Lord had suffered. Upon the like reason it may be said further, no Prince shall be able to keep honest Servants, if they must stand in fear, that the like may be done unto them by any other Prince that is mightier than their Master: From whence it would follow, that the lesser Principalities would be put to endless troubles, and must in the end expect from the more Potent, nothing else but what the Wolf desired from the Sheep, when he endeavoured to deprive them of the Dogs that were their faithful Keepers and Preservers. These are such things, as (no doubt) may find Audience with many; neither are they to be contradicted by me, provided that the Minister or Servants of any Prince be such a Man, as negotiateth his Lords Interest and Profit by lawful means, and after a due manner, and keepeth within his bounds; that avoideth all provokings, and doth not intangle affairs more and more, but rather striveth for Peace and Equity in all things, and before all things: One that doth not for his Covetousness, Pride, and Revengefulness, bring both Country and Inhabitants into utmost peril and damage, but doth that which becometh a Faithful, Upright, and Honest Man. But yet to this you will doubtless reply and say, that such fair dealing is also to be presumed to have been used by the Prince of Gostorp's President and his Sons, since of no body any ill ought to be suspected, before at least he appeareth by reasonable signs to be guilty of it; and that therefore these good persons may happily suffer wrong, seeing that such great Ministers are never without envious Backbiters, and Enemies that lie in wait, and digg pits for them; so that it would be unjust to throw them into the same, before they are convinced of their misdemeanors.

It were to be wished that the present case had been, *rati-
one facti*, in such a condition; then certainly the Crowns of Denmark and Norway, with the two Neighbouring Duke-
doms,

doms *Sleswig*, and *Holstein*, might have been free from many Calamities, which they have suffered these 30. years. Neither would his Majesty, as a Christian, Conscientious and most wise Prince, have proceeded to such an extremity, but would to such faithful and upright Ministers, rather have shewed himself Gracious than Ill-affected. But alas, the contrary is notorious in these Countries, what urgent Motives His Majesty had, unavoidably to proceed to this Resolution; and how the said President with great forwardness and pains, manifested by many intolerable actions, odious to God and Man, practised by him these many years, hath brought on this Calamity to himself and his Sons. And because I know that by reason of the great distance of place where those things were done, the particularities of all are not known to you; and for as much as you may be desirous to have some Information of them, I am willing to communicate unto you in brief what I know of the business.

It is convenient therefore in the first place to be noted, as a material point, that the said President is a born Subject of His Majesty; for, his Father was Steward in the Cloyster of Noble Virgins at *Trzebor*, who brought him up to learning; where, by reason of the rare Endowments which God had bestowed on him, he did soon in his youthful years profit so much, that first he pleaded causes, and soon after was made *Syndicus* of the Country *Sleswig-Holstein*; and shortly after, Counsellour at the Court of the Duke of *Gottorp*, more than 30. years ago. His abilities, which God had given him, and the good opportunity, which by means of the forementioned high offices, so early attained by him, was put into his hand, ought by right to have obliged him, as a Subject, to seek the welfare of his Prince under whom he was born, and to promote the prosperity of his Native Country; especially because the State of the Dukedoms, *Sleswig* and *Holstein*, is such, that they have a common Interest with his Majesty

Majesty; and the Kings and Duke of *Gottorps* Proprieties are so knit together, that one must needs participate of the others damage, as well as prosperity; and what hapneth to one, *per publicam vel Calamitatem vel Uilitatem*, the same must also concern the other. But as the best Wine turneth into the fourest Vinegar, so the best Wits incline to the worst when they set not God and Vertue before their eyes, whereof this man hath been a clear Example: so assoon as he had got into service at Court, there grew in him an unsatiable ambition and covetousness, to the satisfying of which he neglected no meanes, how unjust and dishonest soever it might be. Before all things he strived to derive his Dukes favour upon himself alone, and to possess the same alone, well knowing, that if he could compass that, that all things would be easie for him to do; and this succeeded for him so far, that in a short time he got the direction of all businesses into his hands. When he had once Mastered this Post, it was easie for him to maintain himself in the same, seeing he made use of the common practise, to plant all Colledges and Offices with such persons, of whose devotion he was assured; or as were of his Kindred, or that were so faithful, that they would not do him any hurt or prejudice. The more his honour encreased, the more grew his covetousness, lest meanes should be wanting to continue his high ambition to posterity; therefore seeing that neither his mean Extraction, nor his Marriage, had yielded him anything considerable; and whereas his ordinary Salary could not reach the height of his designs, he betook himself to unlawful means. For it is known, that in 20. or 30. years time he in that manner gathered incredible Riches, amounting not only to Tuns of Gold, but to Millions. To many indeed such extraordinary wealth will seem incredible, seeing the manner of getting it is not known to every one; but believe me, Sir, that I write nothing but what is truth, as every one in
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this Country can bear me witness. For, who knoweth not what the exceeding high *Sportule* and causes in *Chancery* have yielded him in so long a time? how many thousand offices of Governours, Counsellours, Lieutenants, Rulers, Overseers, Receivers of Customs, Burgomasters, Superintendents, Deans, Ministers, Sextons, &c. have been conferred in so many years, which he had all in his free disposition, and might give them to whom he pleased, yet they were given freely to none, but were all sold at the dearest rate; so that he received for many an Office, Ten, Twenty, or more thousand Rix Dollars. How hath he set Right and Justice to sale? How many hundred, yea thousand bad causes, hath he made good for Bribes and Gifts, by unjust, crooked, obscure, and ambiguous sentences? How many great, and more than Kingly Donations hath he often drawn from his Sovereign in private Possessions and Mony? How many presents and pensions hath he enjoyed from Forrein Crowns, especially when in time of War he served them with all manner of Advice and Directions, to the prejudice of his Native Prince to whom he had sworn Allegiance? Lastly, what horrible Usury hath he driven with the great Sums that he had gotten after this manner, in lending them forth for excessive *Jewish* uses to Towns, Countries, or private persons, which afterwards were not able to acquit themselves of the Principal, how willing soever they were to repay the same, but were forced against their will to keep it, and pay use for it, or else to stand in fear of being persecuted and endangered a thousand ways? This must needs have yielded Tuns of Gold, and Millions, especially since he hath driven the Trade in gros for Twenty or Thirty years together, without any hindrance. You may possibly think, Sir, that these things are searched in too narrowly and severely, and that no body on his Majesties account hath cause to touch these things, seeing what the President hath Acted herein,

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was done in another Princes Country and Service; and that if his Lord could suffer it, then no other ought to meddle with it, for as much as the Princes of *Holstein-Gottorp* are of such Wisdom, that they knew very well what they ought to suffer, or not. And lastly, that if any thing was done amiss, it was no less to others that are strangers; and that therefore no body ought to trouble himself with it.

But, Sir, you ought to consider again, that his Majesty is here to be lookt upon, not as a Stranger, but as a Prince that hath an Interest in the business. The Duke of *Sleswig-Holstein-Gottorp* is indeed a Ruling Prince, yet not *privative*, but He hath his Majesty, by vertue of the Ancient Hereditary Agreements and Statutes of the Land, to be a Partner in the Government, especially over the Provinces and Subjects that are left common and undivided. Besides this, his Majesty is to be considered in the Duke of *Gottorps* countries belonging to the Empire, as sharer in the Feof, and eventual Successor; Over the other Lands of the Duke of *Gottorp*, in the Dukedom of *Sleswig*, His Majesty is *Dominus directus*, and Lord of the Feof. Therefore, when in the said Countries of the Duke of *Gottorp*, as well in *Holstein* as *Sleswig*, any thing hapneth tending to the ruin of the same, and to the destruction of the Subjects, such damage falleth also upon his Majesty and Successors, as respective Partners in the Government over them as Joyat-Vassals, and as Landlords in Reversion over their Posterity. Wherefore in truth, the long suffering of those most gracious Kings is to be admired, that could endure such disorders, and their own losses partly present, partly eventual for so long a time, and did not endeavor to prevent the same sooner. I could enlarge upon this point, but must break off for shortness sake, seeing there are many things more of importance which I would fain mention. Amongst others, there cometh into my mind the exceeding great hatred and enmity, which the President hath
always

always harboured against the Kings of *Denmark* and *Norway*, and their State, and which really he hath shewed and manifested. Unto many it will seem incredible, that a man which is His Majesties born Subject, and by reason of his Lands and Possessions, is bound to the same by Oath of Allegiance, and who was, by reason of the common Government, and eventual succession, obliged to bear him all due respect, should have forgotten himself so far; but the ensuing Narrative will make all things clear and evident. For, his Plots chiefly began to be discovered after His Majesty of *Sweden* had allyed Himself by Marriage with the Princely House of *Holstein-Gottorp*; as is evident by this, that when His Majesty of *Denmark* in a few years after, *Anno 1657*. was forced by unavoidable necessity to take up Arms against *Sweden*, whereby the Wars penetrated into the midst of the Crown and Territories of *Denmark*, and by reason of many unhappy events, which God and Nature did permit, all things went successfully for *Sweden*, then the Presidents long harboured hatred against *Denmark*, did burst out at once in a full flame. For he procured, that from his Lord the Duke of *Gottorp*, all possible advice and real assistance was given to the King of *Sweden*. Yea, when mony was wanting, then the deceased Lord Bishop of *Lubeck*'s young Son's ready Treasure, and most precious Jewels were seized, and employed in favour of the King of *Sweden*, to strengthen his Arms against *Denmark*, which things are not restored to the said Duke to this present hour. But this was not all, for the President, as his Arts Master, knew how to put in practise the noted Maxim, That a Knavery ought never to be done by halves, but always wholly. Wherefore, by the making of that rash and prejudicial peace at *Rotiskild*, *Anno 1658*. he had by the help of the *Swedes* a Point inserted in the Articles, that his Majesty of *Denmark* was to give satisfaction to the Princely house of *Gottorp*, concerning all grievances

ances and Demands, or else the Peace to be null and void. For the debating now of this pretended satisfaction, there was appointed a Meeting for the Plenipotentiaries of both Parties, in which the President appeared on the behalf of the Princely house of *Gottorp*. It is to be believed, that he never was so well pleased in his Life, as when he was appointed for this affair, seeing he hastned himself on Foot over the Ice towards *Denmark*. When he Arrived at *Copenhagen*, he propounded such demands and pretences, as grieved his Majesty more, than all the other oppressions, which he had suffered from *Sweden*; for, these, when all came to all, were done *vis belli & armorum*, and in a manner *aliquo specioso titulo*, as by a Peer; but those did proceed from an unfaithful Subject, and a sworn Tenant, who Fished in troubled waters, and instigated his Lord to make himself Sovereign against the sworn homage, and so to subvert all ancient hereditary agreements and Unions. The Demands, which the President made, were hard and scandalous, but the manner which he used in negotiating, was much more insolent, for assoon as, on his Majesties behalf, the least difficulty was made, or equity was offered, and the ancient Unions and their extent were alledged, or but some days were taken to consider, and about so important affairs, to hear the advice of the Senators, the President would oppose himself with great fierceness, saying, *I will have a Categorical Resolution in 24. hours, or else I send the King of Swedens Order, which I have in my pocket, without delay to the Army, that they shall break, and act again as Enemies.* After long intreating, he would sometimes give twice 24. hours to consider, yet *cum prejudicio & comminatione* of a new Rupture. Who would believe, that so great a patience could be found in Kings, to endure such a spiteful and unheard-of insolency of their born Subject and sworn Tenant. But the times would not permit it to be other-

therwise; and it was requisite for preserving of Peace, to give way unto their Pride, and to free the Duke of *Holstein Gottorp* from the Vassalage, and to grant him Sovereignty, and upon an old antiquated and ill-grounded pretense, to deliver unto him the Province *Swabstade*, half the goods of the Chapter, and the Cathedral Church at *Sleswig*. But yet the greatest loss was, that the President, by occasion of these unjust Treaties, detained the *Swedish* Army for three Months from their withdrawing, and left the same upon the Crown of *Denmark's*, and the Country of *Holstein's* neck, to their great oppression and ruin; only to the end, that they should not march off, till he had obtained his aim, and the Princely house of *Gottorp* was satisfied in their pretended Grievances. Now, notwithstanding the Peace was after this manner bought at a dear rate, yet did the same not last long, seeing that *Sweden* soon after began a New War against *Denmark*, which came so unexpectedly upon his Majesty, that he saw the Enemy even before the Town of his Royal Residence almost sooner than the news of his coming was heard. During these new troubles the President endeavoured fully to accomplish, what he had not means enough before to do. He seduced his Lord so far, that he did as good as openly declare for *Sweden*, and against *Denmark*, whereby the King of *Denmark's* Forces were distracted, and his Majesty was forced to maintain a peculiar body against these designs, to the utmost ruin of the Country. Yea, the President, hoping that the period of the Kingly House was now at hand, and that *Copenhagen* would in a few days be in the hands of the *Swedes*, did endeavor by all means, that his Lords Eldest Son came in person into the *Swedish* Camp before *Copenhagen*, that he might help to besiege and torment the Crown and Head of his Family, and his lawful Feof-Lord; yea, to devise against him and the whole Kingly House, bloody Counsels, how they might not

only be deprived of Crown and Scepter, but also carried away into captivity, or perhaps quite slain. O horrible things! the Author of which deserved not to be pardoned to all Eternity. Yet his Majesty, out of a love to a final peace, and upon the passionate moving of the Lords Mediators, was induced to forget this horrible spite, and to put it up with the new Peace.

In the mean while, the ruling Lord Duke of *Sleswig-Holstein-Gottorp* deceased, and every one was in good hopes, that the new Government would bring in some change, so that the Presidents dangerous Counsels, which had taken place hitherto, might be moderated, and grounded upon other principles. Divers faithful and discreet Ministers did then advise, that after, by the help of the *Swedes*, all things were obtain'd according to desire, it would do well to recommence a good intelligence with *Denmark*, in regard that the true interest of the Princely House *Gottorp* and their Countries did require, not to be separated from *Denmark* by everlasting Enmity. The Ancient Agreements and Unions would not suffer it, and the situations of the Countries did also require, that all ought to be well with *Denmark*, or else it was to be feared, that a time might come, when *Denmark* would be mindful of the former discontents, and seek to be revenged of all the disgrace and damage, which once they received. Therefore they thought it fit, that from thenceforth *Denmark's* Friendship should be sought again, whereunto his Majesty would easily incline, only to draw *Gottorp* off from *Sweden*, and to avoid inward variances at home. That *Sweden* was not too much to be relied upon, for that though *Sweden* at present had holpen well, yet one could not always be sure of the same. The near consanguinity would in time grow remoter. *Sweden* also was far off, and before help could come from thence, *Gottorp* would be consumed by *Denmark* at a Breakfast. Neither was it

to be expected, that Sweden would always draw the Sword for Gottorp's sake, and fall out with Denmark. But in case a good intelligence was made with Denmark, then both the Northern Crowns would seek Gottorps friendship; namely, Denmark, to prevent a further League with Sweden, and Sweden to undo the new made friendship with Denmark, besides other prudent considerations, which might have advanced the Princely house Gottorp, to a greater splendor, if they had been practised. But the good President did not like this, he was afraid of a wet Year, thinking that in case the two Princes should come to be friends again, then the Third man was like to suffer, and that he that was the disturber of Peace, might come to have his reward given him. And therefore all moderate Counsels were set aside; the extremities continued, jealousies against Denmark were maintained, and a new alliance made with Sweden, wherein it was expressly agreed, that they both should assist one another according to their power, and Attack Denmark again *conjunctis viribus*, as soon as it should but offer to stir.

The great confidence of the Swedish friendship, encouraged them more still, wherefore a new pretence was sought against Denmark, since his Highness of Gottorp would have no more any regard for the safety of the Kingdom: (as it was usual according to the ancient unions and continual practise, time out of mind) but in this would quite and clean separate himself from his Majesty, and keep his own Army, and upon this account take half the contributions of the Dukedomes Sleswig-Holstein to his own free disposition: so that there was no end of contesting, till his Majesty gave his consent to it. It cannot be believed, especially by Strangers, to whom the Lands situation and condition is not fully known, what great prejudice this stroke hath done unto his Majesty and the States. To give a short declaration of this, his Majesty was put hereby to a very great loss, amounting yearly to many

ny thousand, seeing he was to keep so many Head-Garisons in *Holstein*, and to maintain many Troopes in readines for the security of the Land, and so was to defend the common Land, when in the mean while he enjoyed but half the contributions hereto appointed by the States, which did not suffice by far, but must be made up yearly by a most intolerable supply out of the Kings Chamber-Revenues. In the whole Empire is hardly a State, that hath done so; and withal they continued the same for 15. years together. On th' other side there accrew'd an unvaluable advantage to his Highness of *Gottorp*. For he had scarce one or other place to maintain, and kept but a few men in Arms, and yet enjoyed half the contributions out of both Dukedomes, whence a great overplus was yearly left him to his free disposal, by which, as a considerable subsidy, his Rent-Chamber was beyond measure well supplied. This may be rightly said: to take the profit to himself, and leave the Burthen upon another. The States of the Land lost also much by it, and were deprived of a great part of their wonted priviledges. For they used formerly to keep a just account of the expenses of the Contribution-mony which was granted and paid in, and they had their own Deputies sitting by the Cassa: but now they must see, that many supplys which they gave, were not employed towards the Lands defence, as they were intended, but to far other things, and chiefly to the maintaining of a Magnificent Sovereign Court. Some good old patriots that did remember the former Golden times, and who were grieved at those vain expenses, would fain have lamented over it, but the president knew how to dispose most part of the Nobility, so that they all must be silent, and let things go as they went. Hereto he used many Artifices. Amongst the chiefest Families he procured for himself by his Childrens Marriage a great party. Others he obliged by preferments, although he did not do it freely, but would be paid dearly enough for it. To others,

others, when they came to Court, he shewed great civilities; but to all he gave an ill impression of his Majesty, saying, that on the Kings side nothing else was endeavoured, than to deprive the States of their remaining Priviledges, and to extirpate them wholly; and that this would also have been done long agoe unless himself had stood in the breach, and maintained his Lord in a gracious good will towards the good States. His Highness was also upon his Remonstrations, so passionately affected towards the States, and their Liberty, that he had the Lands priviledges writen upon a Table, and hung upon a Wall in his closet, reading them very diligently almost every Day, to the end they might be well known to him, and that he might not do, nor permit any thing to be done against them. When a Land-day was kept, and on his Majesties behalf was propounded, which was necessary for the Lands defence, then the President instead of cooperating and disposing the States to a willingness, would either himself, or by his confidants, make a thousand protestations, declaring that it was needles to overburthen the poor states, that his highness, as bearing share in the Government, did not desire so much, and what need should there be of so great Arming, things might be carryed on with less expences; which sayings did find a great applause with the States, whereas they were nothing but false Complements, by which he endeavoured to gain a party amongst the States against his Majesty. For the President knew well enough, that his Highness could lose nothing by it, and that his Majesty could by reason of the many Garisons, accept of no less than was propounded; and what was granted to him, must at last also be given to the Princely House *Gottorp*; although the President did hypocritically intimate, that his Highness was sorry that the States should be charged so much, but seeing it was fit, that he should receive no less contribution then his Majesty, he was forced against his will to exact

so much, only to preserve His right. By this practise the President could enrich the *Holstein Gottorps* Rent-Chamber with notable Revenues, and yet gained for his Lord amongst the States a special affection, and advantageous Report of clemency; but his Majesty he charged with the slander of heavy Extortions, and harsh Government. Yea, it happened sometimes, when at the Lands-dyet a conclusion was made, and the Contents of the same were published by a common Patent under the Kings and Duke of *Gottorps* Seal, that *Holstein Gottorp* received afterwards from it, without his Majesties knowledge and consent, and by his own particular Proclamation gave other orders. After this manner have sometimes formal Agreements and Contracts been repealed and disannulled by *Holstein Gottorp* alone, whereof that which passed concerning the Taxes in the Country, may be a good proof.

How difficult now, by this constitution, the common Government was made to his Majesty, and how dangerously the minds of the Subjects were alienated from him, is easie to conclude, especially when this was continued until the last Land-dyet, which was held a year ago, in which the bottom of the Vessel was taken out, and things become of another countenance; whereof more shall follow hereafter.

Certainly, when the Honourable States will please to reflect *a posteriori*, upon the effects of the Presidents cunning Tricks, and perceive from henceforth his Majesties Fatherly affection to the Country, they cannot chuse but be jealous of themselves, that they have suffered their eyes to be blinded hitherto, and have kissed him that did sting them, praised him that did annoy them; yea, extolled him to Heaven, that under the Mask of Friendship and goodness did trample them under his Feet. Now, Sir, what you have understood of the rehearsed proceedings, sheweth indeed abundantly the Presidents ill affected mind against his Majesty;

but yet I cannot forbear to report one or other of his Actions, by which he hath extreamly mortified the Royal house. Amongst others, there cometh into my mind the affair of the *Oldenburg* and *Delmenborst* succession, wherein he hath done so much hurt to the Kings Interest, as cannot be described. For, in the first place, he did mannage the affair so, that his Majesty, *Anno 1647.* and *1649.* was beguiled to enter with *Holstein Gottorp* into an agreement full of prejudice, and so was defrauded of his Prerogative of Eldership, which was solenniter introduced by an *Imperial Diploma, Anno 1570.* whereby the Royal Line was deprived of the Moyetie of their Right to the said Counties, and the same accrewed to the Dukes House.

Secondly, when a Proceſs was begun with the Princely Line of *Holstein Sonderburg* or *Ploem*, which by amicable means might have easily been compounded, the President did always hinder the same with all his power and force; to which end he hath brought to light, and before the Judges many judicial and extrajudicial Writings, that with extream vehemency do rail at His Imperial Majesty, and his competent Jurisdiction *In hac causa*, as also at his Ministers, and this with the superscription of his Majesties Name, as if he were pleased with, or did approve of such harsh and bitter Libels; whereas they often were not so much as communicated first to his Majesty, nor to His Ministers; much less was their advice required. And all this to the end, that his Majesty might for his harsh proceeding against his near Couzen, become odious to the World, and be set at variance with his Imperial Majesty, and consequently being always the weaker for want of Friends, and a multitude of adversaries might remain at last exposed to the arrogancy of his Neighbour; seeing that no body can deny, that the Crown of *Denmark* is at a great loss, when the good confidence, which it hath with his Imperial Majesty,

and the States of the Empire, is troubled, since both Parties are nearly knit together by a common Interest. Nothing indeed could have pleased the President more, than if by occasion of this Process, he could have involved his Majesty into an open War, to which end, at divers times, he said to the Kings Ministers, when they conferred with him, or his confidants, about things belonging to the Cause; *Nos Consiliis, nos Armis*, he would fill the Arrows, the Royalists should shoot them, or use the Sword, when his Pen could neither reach nor serve any longer. To the same intent, said one of the Presidents Creatures once *in pleno consilio* to the Royal Ministers: That they must not yield in the cause, and that the Sword was good against the Emperors Authority; if the point of that were shewed him, he would soon be quiet, and not undertake to give any sentence. By this one may guess, if God had bestowed Crowns upon such Spirits, how they would have set the world on fire and flame for their Pride and Revenges sake. As now the President hath endeavoured after this manner to diminish the Kings high Reputation, so hath he also oftentimes drawn his Majesty into very great and fruitless expenses, when by his stubborn Counsels he hath made the former friendly Treaties miscarry. Let us but consider what hath been spent at the Imperial Commissions at *Hamburg* and *Lube*; what his Majesty hath been forced to bestow upon consultations, and other things in the pursuit of this Controversie, although the accommodation was never retarded on his behalf, but always facilitated, and only hindred by the *Gottorpish* resistance. And yet was his Majesty of so upright and well-affected a mind towards the Princely house *Gottorp*, that without the same he would enter into no agreement; and therefore, when *Anno 1671. in January*, he might have had a particular Agreement with *Holstein Ploen* upon good conditions, yet would conclude nothing before he did call
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his Highness of *Gottorp* and his Ministers first to the Treaty. But how on *Gottorps* side they have behaved themselves, is best known to the Presidents second Son, who was present at the Treaty, and could not be induced to any friendly compliance. Wherefore his Majesty was at last constrained to resolve otherwise, and to agree with *Holstein* apart. Soon after, when his Highness of *Gottorp* began to weigh by himself the fearful Issue of the ill-grounded cause, he took hold of a very expedient resolution for himself, and by Agreement transfer'd all his pretended Right to the Counties, and their dependencies, for a certainty to his Majesty; Who out of a good heart and compassion, was moved to accept of the same, to rescue his Couzen and Brother out of the Labyrinth, designing to give also afterwards to the Princely house *Holstein Ploen*, satisfaction, that they might have no need to complain, and thus bring the whole Family to an Unity. The agreement was made; his Highness of *Gottorp* gave his Princely Parole and Hand towards it; was content to admit congratulations upon it, and desired the present Forrein Ministers to give notice of it to their Principals. But as soon as he was spoken withal afterward by the President and his Sons, all things were turned another way; The President could not endure that his Lord should come to a good understanding with his Majesty; and therefore this agreement made upon Princely Parole and promise, must be recall'd. Sometimes they would say, the Duke had been too free, and had been worsted beyond measure; sometimes the eventual Right of the Dukes Brother was introduced, and what may be else of ungrounded things, which are already published in Print.

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In summa;

In S U M M A.

Although his Highness afterwards did oftentimes profess to his Majesty, that he would stand to his promise; yet was he forced to suffer, the contrary to be done, and be contented to be controuled by his Servant, and to depend upon him. Nevertheless the President, to colour his practices before the world, did spread abroad some false Relations, but the refutation of them, which is published, doth shew, that in many particulars he omitted the Truth, and put in many fained things, detracting from his Majesties high Reputation, insomuch that even he had cause enough to have given him, as a malicious Slanderer, his due reward. But his Majesty did, according to his wonted goodness, leave the matter to its own event in time; which now at last hath manifested, into what great calamity the President hath mislead his Lord, who formerly might have got off with Honour, and could have received some Tuns of Gold for his Retreat; who now, after many great charges, and no small loss of Reputation, is bereaved of all, and must at last refund some Tuns of Gold *pro fructibus perceptis & expensis*. Here I would fain here the opinion of discreet men, whether if his Majesty had nothing else against the President, he might not hold him for guilty only for this cause; that he, by his foolish and almost treacherous conduct of Affairs, hath brought his Majesties innocent Nephews, Born of his most beloved Sister, namely, the young Princes of *Gottorp*, into such entanglements and unrecoverable damages, as they and their Posterity will not be able easily to forget or repair. Now Sir, all this that I have hitherto said, cannot but induce you to think, that the President must needs be a man horribly Extravagant, as a man to whom fierceness, refractoriness, and Pride, is natural. The truth of which can by nothing more

more appear, than by pondering the manner of his continued behaviour towards the Kings of *Denmark* since the last Northern Peace. For, as soon as any thing happened, which was not presently liked by the Princely House of *Gottorp* (as it often comes to pass, between Neighbours, and such as live in perpetual intercourse with each other) then the President did not, as wise Ministers are wont to do, endeavour to menage the same with gentle remonstrances, but all things were demanded in such harsh terms, that the Letter which he sent to his Majesty, were oftentimes so rude and Insolent, that the like have seldom been written to common people: for which reason many of them were left unanswered, and his Majesty to preserve his own honour, was even forced to forbear sending to him any more. The main thing which heightened him to this audacious kind of carriage, proceeded from his great confidence in *Sweden*, insomuch that he did not care to keep it as a secret, but boasted of the same oftentimes aloud, and before all men. Yea, when two years ago all Europe lay burning in a fierce flame of War, and only the two *Northern* Crowns were free from it, yet by reason of the *Swedish* preparations, and manifold plottings, a dangerous jealousy arose against each other: And when *Sweden* had rendred it self suspected to all Europe, also of a sudden rapture, even then, the President maintained the Amity with *Sweden*, as if it had been his Lords highest glory, and greatest Interest; so that his Highness of *Gottorp* was perswaded with his Lady the Dutchess, in Person to take a Journey at his exceeding great Expence into *Sweden*, to shew his Inclinations openly to the world, and to enter himself into a further and more strict Alliance with that Kingdom. Now, whether this must not of necessity make his Majesty of *Denmark* have an ill apprehension, is left to the consideration of the Prudent, especially seeing the President had ordered his Sons to go along as *Internuncios*;

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and the Voyage as well thither as back again, was with great trouble performed by Sea, that there might be no need of passing by Land through *Denmark*, for fear lest he should be obliged to give his Majesty a civility, or be suspected by *Sweden* for a visit given at *Copenhagen*. What the Debates were at that time in *Sweden*, and the Agreements among them, the Presidents own Conscience can best tell him. For, at least he cannot deny, that a new dangerous Alliance was concluded between the *Swedes* and his Lord; by vertue of which, *Gottorp* was to keep on foot some thousands of men for the use of *Sweden*; hereby the President did prepare a commodious Seat of War for the *Swedes* in the midst of his Majesty of *Denmarks* Territories. Besides this, it was endeavoured, after a dangerous manner, to draw the *Swedes* into the *Oldenburg* and *Delmenhorsts* business, or to play the said Counties wholly into their hands, whereby the whole Family, though lawful Successors, must of consequence have fallen into a very great hazard of the Succession.

Lastly, that nothing might be omitted which might procure any repation and damage to his Majesty of *Denmark*, the President did also make use of this good opportunity, to obtain for the City of *Hamburg* an Alliance with *Sweden*, very formidable and extreamly offensive to *Denmark*. In the mean while, he supported them as much as lay in his power, and intreated his Lord not only to promote the said Alliance against his own Interest, but also to suffer himself to be included therein, to the great prejudice of the House of *Holstein*. Yea, even in *Denmark*, when his Majesty did think fit to endeavour a diverting this pernicious undertaking of the said City, he busied himself to promote and defend the same, and by his intermeddling, enabled them to gain, by a noble present of many thousand Rixdollars, a certain eminent Minister of the King so to order matters, that
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on his Majesties part the business might not be further inquired into, but let alone after that the cheat hapned to be by Gods Providence clearly discovered. Whether this be not treacherous dealing in a subject, servant, and retainer, I leave the honest part of the world to judge. Nevertheless, thus things went by Gods permission until the month of *May* of the year last past, when the Land-dyer, which was then kept in *Holstein*, did put on the taking of that quick and extream course, which is now seen before our eyes. For at the said Dyer, his Majesty caused a Proposal to be made, together with a desire, that seeing, by reason of the troublesome times, he was forced to increase his Army, the Land-States would concur to assist and supply him with a larger Subsidy than was wont to be done heretofore. Concerning the Princely house of *Gottorp*, his Majesty was pleased to leave it to the States, how much they would grant to the same, although in regard of the few Forces they had to maintain, they could not in reason pretend to very much. This was the Stumbling-block, on which all that was remaining of outward Friendship was fully dasht to pieces. With great admiration one might have heard, how the Prince of *Gottorps* Commissioners, and especially the Presidents second Son, found themselves offended. There was no end of protesting and contracting. They said, It was in-joined them in their instructions (the original of which they also shewed,) to declare and testify by heart and mouth, that since it was manifestly evident, his Majesty meant to do nothing else but to wrong the Princely House of *Gottorp* out of their equal share and right, their Lord was not able to endure such Enchroachments any longer; nor would he expect Rules or Orders from *Copenhagen*, but find assistance elsewhere, in case they were provoaked too much, &c. Those of the Kings side replied with all meekness, advising them to abstain from such discourses, seeing that extremities produced

duced seldom any good, and no King would suffer himself to be braved. Therefore, that they ought rather to consider, if his Majesty should be angry in earnest, how soon they would be foiled. They answered again, that they must try the event, not doubting but what they might lose in the beginning, they should get double again in the end: And that if heretofore there had been made a *Rotbildisch* Peace, the like (no question) might be had again. And so before the Kings Commissioners were aware of it, the Prince of *Gottorps* party dissolved the Dyet by sound of Trumpet, intimating to the States, that every one might be gone homewards till further order. The great spight which was done to his Majesty by this one-sided dissolution of the Dyet; as also the open threatnings of those people that were wont to seek their Revenge to the utmost of their power, did not a little prejudice the Kings reputation. But much more was to be feared their dangerous conjunction with our Neighbours.

The *Suedes* whom His Majesty, by reason of their Alliances, could deem no better than His Enemies, did swarme about the *Elbe*, and that so near, that in 2 or 3 dayes they might stand with their Army in *Holstein*. From all places came Admonitions to beware of the concealed Enemies among our selves: That the President was one of the worst, who had usually said openly, that Wars must needs come, before times could mend: That for this reason he did endeavour with all his power, that his Majesty should not be assisted by the States, that so the Land might remain undefended; and the *Suedes*, when they came, might without any resistance, do what they listed.

His bitterness was so great, that to some, that would have disposed him to peaceable Councells, representing, that the Enemy would ruin not only the King's, but also the Duke of *Gottrop's*, nay, even his own, and his Childrens noble estates, he answered boldly: *Well, come what will, let my Soul*

die

dye with the Philistians. A more cruel, bloody, and revengeful mind, hath hardly been heard of in the world. Moreover, certain news came, that instruction was given to the Swedes, to land some thousands of men, Foot-Souldiers, at *Eckelsford*, which at *Tonningen* and *Gottorp* should have been taken in and maintained in Garrison. Also that the President did negotiate with forreign Crowns in enmity with his Majesty, to obtain assistance for his Lord, to raise an Army, to be employed in *Holstein* in the Swedish service against *Denmark*. Therefore by these doings the President's old evil design, to the effecting of which, he had hitherto only wanted meanes, made it plainly appear, it had been but just with his Majesty presently to proceed to shew himself in earnest, and to do what was fit and necessary; especially, when he intended, for the good of his Allyes, and the defence of his own Countries, finding no longer peace with his Neighbours to march with his Army into foraign parts; in which case it was not safe for him to leave an unguarded back, and open bitter Enemies to take advantage behind him in the midst of his Countries. But yet his Majesty did again prefer gentleness before rigour, and moved his highness of *Gottorp* to a friendly conference, which was by way of preliminaries begun at *Flensburg*, and afterwards in *June*, continued at *Rensburg*, whither his Highness repaired in Person, together with his President and his three Sons, and other Counsellors more; and were received with all due respect and kindness. His Majesty caused to be propounded, whatsoever could be thought to be expedient for the clearing of all differences; insomuch that he proffered yet to interpose in the business of the *Oldenburg* and *Delmenhorsts* successions, so that his Highness of *Gottorp* should come off with the same honour and advantage as had been agreed on four years ago at *Copenhagen*, although the cause was mightily alter'd since, and by the Imperial sentence fallen into a very desperate condi-

had forced the Crown of *Denmark* to a very disadvantageous Peace, was not yet extinguished. That *Sweden* was not so faint yet, as some imagine. And that before men were aware, the Elector of *Bayern*, and the Prince of *Hannover*, would take to the *Swedish* party, and that *France* would send over the *Rhein* a flying Body to assist the *Swedes* in the *Bre-mish* Territories, so that then things would go another way, and *Denmark* would not be so high. That they hoped yet to see their disgrace and damage redressed, and to recover more than they had lost. If the President and his party had flattered themselves with such hopes in secret, only in their Closets, it might have been indulged them as a sorry comfort, and be counted a weakness in them. But they did not keep it secret, but made it their business openly to possess the world with such Fables, and to prepare the same for their future malicious designs: insomuch that from the Duke of *Gottorp*, a Letter dated *Octob. 21.* was addressed to his Imperial Majesty, wherein his Highness maketh a long and heavy complaint of his Majesty of *Denmarks* proceedings; and desireth at the future Treaty of Peace, graciously to be remembred concerning the losses, which he was put to by his Majesty of *Denmark*, and that the Imperial Ministers which were to be sent thither, might be so instructed, that if not sooner, yet at least at the conclusion of the Peace, they might help his Highness to his own again, that so he might recover his Prerogatives, which from his Ancestors had been lawfully derived unto him. Besides this, the President kept frequent private correspondence with some of his creatures living an unsettled life up and down, with whom he advised after what manner the agreement made at *Rensburg*, might fairly be dissolved. The Originals of the Letters hereof are in his Majesties hands, and so full of outrages, slanders, and horrible reproaches against his Majesties sacred Person, that an honest Christian would be ashamed to write the like of
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the *Great Turk*, or *Tartar Cham*, seeing God commands that even Heathenish and Tyrannical Magistrates should be honoured after a certain manner. But the President thinking this particular slanderous correspondence not to be sufficient to obtain his aim, betook himself also to publick Writings; For, he did publish in Print at *Francford*, a *Narrative* in *High-Dutch*, wherein to the highest disgrace of his Majesty, the agreement lately made at *Rensburg*, and what passed thereby, is very hainously and falsely reported. Moreover, the President thinking the affection of *England* to be very necessary at the Treaty of Peace, by reason of the undertaken Mediation, there hath been published another *Narrative* in *English* concerning the same business, which in truth is very full of calumnies and slanders, and dishonoureth his Majesty more intollerably than any other despite that could have been offered to him. And although the said *Narratives* did manifestly betray their own Writer, and the *Dutch* Stile shewed its Master, because it is of the same sort with that which is seen in those Writings that were published on the behalf of *Holstein Gottorp*, concerning the *Oldenburg* affair, and therefore his Majesty upon so evident signs might have had good reason to take hold of the Authors, and to have proceeded with them according to the tenour of their signed Blank; yet he was once more pleased to betake himself to his wonted clemency, and therefore communicated the said slanderous *Narratives* to his Highness of *Gottorp*, intimating by way of Letter, that he hoped his Highness did not only not approve of the like Libels, tending to fresh and far greater differences, but would also join with his Majesty in searching out the Author with all diligence, to give him his due reward for his pains. But instead of a mild answer, reproaving such malicious calumnies, his Majesty received a sharp Letter, couched after the old High Stile, wherein his Highness not only shewed no disliking of the
said

years together had been paid into his Rent-Chamber, and as a Reparation of the great damages accrewed thereby to his Majesty, the Province *Swabstede*, the half of the Chapters revenues, and the Cathedral Church at *Sleswig*, which he had gotten to himself by the *Swedish* War; and withal renounced the Sovereignty obtained in the *Northern* pacification, by the violence of the *Swedes*, obliging himself to hold and receive from henceforth the Dukedom *Sleswig*, and Isle of *Femern*, as a Feof from the Kings of *Denmark*, as heretofore it was usual. Which Articles of Agreement were not only willingly ratified by his Highness, but also most of them were Executed immediately, to the greatest joy of the Land, since God had conducted the dreadful Variancer to a fair Accommodation. Towards the President and his Party his Majesty suffered also all his former displeasure to vanish away, and was most graciously pleased to take for satisfaction a Writing, wherein he obliged himself, with his Sons, since the former differences, which were now compounded, had given cause that some suspicions were fallen upon him, that from henceforth to shew his innocence, he would undertake, design, or occasion nothing against his Majesty, or his Estate and Interest, in Word or Deed, by Writing, or otherwise, nor make any Journey without Permission, either to *Hamburg*, or to any other place, where it might raise any suspicion, and briefly endeavour to the utmost of his power, that his Majesty may find a gracious satisfaction in his behaviour, promising all this under Oath, and the penalty of losing his Honour, Goods and Estate, which in case of contravention, should *ipso facto*, wheresoever they might be met with, be forfeited to the Royal Exchequer, and his person exposed to the Kings displeasure and arbitrary punishment. All things being thus ordered, his Majesty did hope, that by his mildness and clemency, he had obliged his Adversaries to friendship and faithful services,

vices, especially when nothing was taken away from the Princely house of *Gottorp* that might belong to them lawfully, and out of all these Transactions nothing did accrew to his Majesty by this agreement, but what was his own by sight, and was formerly extorted from him by force and violence. Hereupon, all seemed to be well in the beginning, seeing the President, soon after he was return'd home, did send a noble Present to the Kings Chancellor then in Office; shewing thereby, how well he was pleased with the Agreement made, and what great cause he had to be thankful for it: But this good humour did not last long, but he soon reverted to his former Pranks, seeing his Majesty, instead of thanks which he deserved, for having used such a gentle way of long suffering and goodness, when he had right, power, and opportunity, to procure satisfaction to himself without delay by his Arms in hand; yea, instead of the infinite obligation, which the President and his Sons did owe him, for taking them into favour again for a small peice of paper, when he might have had them tried as rebellious Subjects, and unfaithful Tenants, and have had their Statute made a Span shorter, did with great discontentment receive only more provocations, new hatred, and worse threatnings than before: For, they alledged that they were forced *vi & metu* to the agreement; that the Duke and his Counsellors were kept in custody, and were compelled to give consent to what was prescribed them. That matters could not possibly rest in these terms, and the evening of all days was not yet seen, but that affairs might, with the help of God, yet turn to another point. That for the present there was need of yielding, until the Tempest was over, but better times were to come yet. That the *Swedes* and their friendship having been the occasion of falling, hopes must be had, that with them and their assistance one might rise again: That the courage of the *Swedes*, which formerly
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tion. At the beginning of this Treaty things had a good face, and the President made use of a notable Engine, in promising to an eminent Minister of the Kings the Province *Steinborst*, *cum omni jure*, in hopes by this corruption to recover another advantage from the Royal party. But when his Majesty would not admit of this, and desired, that both parties might deal uprightly, there was no more to be done in it. The President and his Sons did stand upon their high Sovereign Principles, boasted of their own, and allyed friends strength; not obscurely signifying, that they had rather let things come to an extremity, and all to be filled with fire and Sword, rather than they would comply with this, which was in truth but reason and equity. Wherefore, by reason of the *Swedish* War drawing near the Frontiers of *Holstein*, it was not safe for his Majesty to lose any more time, or to abide in such danger, which doubtless would have occasioned great mischief, if he should have left the Country naked to these contentious people, for the carrying on of their ill designs, and the executing of their wrathful and Land-destroying intentions. It was also impossible for his Majesty, to stay always with his Army at home, and to observe those Domestick motions, seeing that his Interest and Alliance obliged him to March abroad. For which, and other reasons more, he was constrained to take that unavoidable resolution, not to suffer the Treaty to be dissolved, nor the Parties to withdraw before any thing was concluded, but to detain the contrary party so long from having leave to depart, and to stop his suspected sending to and fro of Servants and Letters, until God should please to dispose the Treaty to a more hopeful condition. The Issue of these things was, that by frequent Conferences, the business was soon brought to a good end; and his Highness delivered his Strong-holds to his Majesty as a real security; and concerning the contributions of the Land, was pleased to admit of some moderation.

ration. Whereupon his Highness entred upon his departure for *Gottorp*, but his Majesty caused that to the President and his Sons, and the other Counsellors of the Duke, who presumed behind it should be declared, how acceptable it was to him to live in amity with the Lord Duke, towards which a good beginning had now indeed made; but by reason of the Dukes suddain departure, many things were left behind undispach'd, for which many years past had caused great jealousy between them. That it was not hard indeed for his Majesty to make use of the present opportunity, and to proceed by force, but he desired not to do so, but to use mildness in all things, that so he might shew to all the world, how dear it is to him to live in peace and quietness, and how loath he is to be burthensome to his Couzen. His Majesty took order also it might be specified, in what particulars he desired yet satisfaction; which the President, and those of his Party, did acknowledge with great thankfulness, and thereupon proceeded to further Treaties, which at length, upon the free and well advised resolution of both Parties, came to a final conclusion the 10th of *July*, by vertue of which, all differences between his Majesty and his Highness of *Gottorp* are taken away, and instead of them, a firm and sincere friendship established; and amongst other things it is concluded, that as often the occasions of the Dukedoms, *Sleswig* and *Holstein* shall require it, They both shall be as one man, and not employ the contributions of the Land to any other use than to the defence of the same; and for the rest, live and act again according to the Rules of the ancient Unions. His Highness in the mean while received into his Strong-holds, as *Gottorp*, *Tonningen*, and *Holmer-Sconce*, Kings Garrisons; renounced all Foreign Leagues, promising not to enter into any other hereafter; to the prejudice of his Majesty, he restored also to his Majesty in recompence of the Contributions, which for so many

said traducing Libels, but rather approved of the same, al-
leading reasons that induced the Author to Pen such *Nar-*
ratives, and instead of the satisfaction lookt for by his Ma-
jesty, made a heavy and grievous complaint of the instant
heavy burthens of the War, not considering that the pre-
sent condition of the War giveth his Majesty no leave to
remedy it; and nothing is done to the Dukes Countries,
but what is agreeable to the Imperial Summons, and to the
necessity of the present War of the Empire, or to the agree-
ment made at *Rensburg*, and is charged as much, and far
more, upon the Kings own Subjects.

After the Rehearsal of all these circumstances and trans-
actions, I hope, Sir, that you are now sufficiently informed
of the Reasons that moved his Majesty to this Resolution.
For he saw, that with goodness nothing more was to be ob-
tained. All agreements and Hand-writings made upon for-
feit of Honour, Goods, and Possessions, signified as much
as nothing. If he made his complaints to *Holstein Gottorp*,
and desired a remedy against such intollerable offences; He
received such Letters and new Complaints for an Answer, so
that his Majesty perceived plainly, that on *Holstein Gottorp*'s
side it was openly endeavoured to raise a Parry to retract the
late made agreement, and to raise new troubles in the Coun-
try. He knew that all this proceeded from the President
and his Sons, who being full of an everlasting hatred and
inveteracy against *Denmark*, had forgotten their own Hand-
writing, and would never rest, till for their Revenges sake,
they had brought the whole Country into Ruin. In the
mean while there goeth a rumour of very dangerous designs
of theirs, which perhaps may be discovered more plainly
hereafter, since they are as yet kept very secret: But this is
certainly known, that the President hath most dangerously
perswaded his Highness of *Gottorp*, that he was for his own
Person not safe for his Majesty in his Residence at *Gottorp*,
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that he was for his own Person not safe for his Majesty in his Residence at *Gottorp*, or any where else in the Country, but must daily expect a surprize, or other affronts; wherefore he advised him earnestly to retire to some other place more secure, which hath raised yet more enmity and eagerness against his Majesty, and disposed him to needless unseasonable flights and fearful retirements, to his own great trouble and vexation. And notwithstanding the better advices of other Ministers, the President hath been still the Head, and nothing could be done but what he resolved on, and what came by him, or was conformable to his will. If any one durst oppose him, he was removed presently, as it hapned lately to many Counsellors of the Duke that were degraded, because they would not always give their assent to his pleasure. What could his Majesty, when he saw these extremities, resolve upon less, than to remove the Authors of these mischiefs, that from thenceforth more wholesome advices might take place. Yet it is Believed, that such resolutions would not yet have been put so soon into Execution, had not his Majesty certainly known, that the President did prepare himself for a flight. For, he began to fain himself to be indisposed in health, and that he had Counsel given him from his Physicians, that he must needs for his recovery go to the warm Baths, hoping by this pretended necessity to obtain free leave to depart; or if that did fail, to have an excuse of his flight, thinking, that if he was but once out of the Land, he should afterwards find a thousand excuses, not to return very soon again; all which may be easily proved against him. Let it be considered then, how much mischief he would have done, if this devise had succeeded. For, it is very well known, with what diligence he hath laboured to make himself a Party in all parts, insomuch that by Foreign Princes he hath sought for the Title of a Privy Counsellor, for nothing else, but that he hoped, by such a Character, to

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promote his Plottings against his Majesty, and to secure himself from all Impeachments. It is not many days since I heard his Majesty speak hereof very passionately to a Foreign Minister. *I take God to witness, said he, that among all the things which I have commanded concerning the President and his Sons, the late resolution was extorted from me; and that I have no other intention, than to remove those Instruments of malice, that raise nothing but discord between me and my Cousen, and Brother of Gottorp, and who would bring the Country into extreame danger, and that so I might hereafter live with the Duke in Love, Charity, and good understanding, as it is convenient; and that my Sisters Children, together with the whole Country, may not be utterly ruined, and that withal I may preserve my own Rights.* Certainly the magnanimity of this glorious King is highly to be commended; but what may follow hereafter, is to be expected. For, in case his Majesty shall be severe, it will fall so hard with the President, and one or other of his Sons, they being his Majesties Subjects, and bound to him by Oath and Allegiance as his Tenants, and so have forfeited their Life, Honour, Goods and Estate, by transgressing the tenor of their Blank, and for the horrible Trespasses committed against his Majesty, may well look for another manner of Treatment than they have hitherto received, seeing his Majesty hath thus far been so gracious to them, that not only in the way when they were brought hither, they were treated civilly; but were also lodged in good Houses and Rooms, where they have been so accommodated, that in reason they ought to think themselves better entertained than they deserve. But God knows how long this may continue. For if his Majesty should put them upon their Tryal, and commit them to the Fiscal, it may possibly go very hard with them, seeing their Transgressions are too great: Not to speak of many other things, which his Majesty hath particular cause to be sensible of. For it was the President,

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by whose directions that foul Libel about the State and Government of *Denmark*, which was written in Latin by the Deceased Colonel *A. T.* and was Printed at the Dukes charges at *Sleswig*, wherein the late King and his Government is slanderously and vilely traduced. It was the President, that some years ago brought it to pass, that his Highness of *Gottorp* had his Majesties good great Coins cried down spitefully against his will and consent, and with highest trespass against his Royal Authority, had his own particular Parents set up in the Kings Towns and Countries within the Dukedoms, and had them read from the Pulpits. It was the President, that some years ago did drive out one of the Kings Subjects, a Farmer, who dwelt upon the borders of one of the Presidents Mannors in the Dukedom of *Sleswig*, without his Majesties knowledge and consent, and broke down the house, and inclosed the ground, and allowed unto the Farmer some Lands in another place; and after this manner did unanswerably alter the bounds of the Royal Territory; which no private Gentleman would suffer to be done to his Subjects, except he had first given his consent to it. The whole world hearing of all these circumstances, will have cause to commend not only this just resolution of his Majesty, but also the gentle manner of executing the same hitherto; and yet admire how his Majesty could have so great patience for so long a time. His Highness of *Gottorp* hath cause to congratulate himself; for a great happiness is come to his Princely house, since those that have held his eyes hitherto, and created him so many troubles, are put aside, so that his Highness is now free to consider his own good, and especially to endeavour to live in a constant good understanding with his Majesty. Now it would be time for him to say, *redde rationem*, and to squeeze out the many sponges fill'd with Gold, and to employ that immense mass of Treasure, which by all manner of Iniquity hath been extorted out of

the very heart and blood of the poor Subjects, to the relief of his afflicted State, and the common good. God hath raised a Worthy to prepare the way to it, and will not (it's probable) deny his further assistance. The benefit of it would abundantly be perceived, not only at the present, but also by our Posterity. His Majesty hath lately sent an Envoy to his highness of *Gottorp*, who is to represent unto him all that hath been mentioned here, and to assure him in the Name of his Majesty, that he intendeth nothing but the greatest kindness to his highness, and meaneth not to prejudice him in the least, desiring that he would not take ill the Arresting of the *Kielmans*, seeing his Majesty was unavoidably forced to it for the forementioned reasons, and that his Highnesses own prosperity might be promoted by it, and his Majesty wisheth heartily, that his Highness may give credit to so good an assurance. If this come to pass, the Princely house of *Gottorp* will be safe, and may rise considerably in a short time; for, nothing can contribute more to its welfare, than a friendship with *Denmark*, to which his Majesty in truth sheweth himself very passionately affected. I can easily presume, Sir, you will reply and say, that all this may be heard, and that possibly the Lord Duke of *Holstein Gottorp's* good will is not to be doubted neither, but he is not dealt withal in other things so, that he may be disposed to friendship. That his Countries are hardly used with Contributions, Quarterings, and Marches. Moreover his stately strong hold *Tonningen*, which did cost his Lord and Father many Tuns of Gold, was razed, as well as the *Stapelholm* Sconce, as if it had been in an Enemies Country, all which could not possibly breed any good blood. As to this, I say, it was to be wished, that as his Majesty was forced to the War against his will, so he could have been content that all the Lands of *Gottorp* might have been spared: And could he have holpen it, I believe verily, they would
not

not have been molested in the least. Let it be considered, what the Kings own Countries have been forced to bear hitherto, and what hath happened to other States of the Empire, that have suffered far more, so that the *Holstein Gottorp* Countries cannot at all compare with them, seeing they have been treated as hitherto so, that the Inhabitants can abide in their own, and follow their trade in peace and quietness. Moreover, there have been left several Provinces free for his Highness of *Gottorp*, of whom nothing is demanded. We ought to consider the good end of the War. If that be obtained, which is aimed at by all the Confederates, then the Subjects of *Gottorp* will enjoy the fruits of their sufferings abundantly, and hereafter in time of Peace be more happy than ever they were. If they suffer in the mean while, they may impute it to the evil Conduct of the President, and to his Friends the *Swedes*, that have urged their Neighbours to this War. If it had not been, that from *Gottorps* affection for *Sweden*, so much danger had been threatned, the War might have been carried on quite otherwise, and the Country much more eased. But in this present State of affairs, the Enemy within our own Bowels, was to be minded more than he that was without, and consequently so great preparations were necessary, especially in the beginning. Nay, if we will examin the business thoroughly, his Highness and his Subjects have more cause to thank his Majesty, than to complain of him. For certainly, unless his Majesty had intervened, and took care of the Duke of *Holsteins* Countries, they would have fallen into the hands of the Confederates, and been spoiled by formal quarterings, and other exactions, after the same manner, as to our grief we see most places of the Empire are, whilst the Dukedoms of *Sleswig* and *Holstein* are as yet preserved from such ruin, and may get off with a tolerable expence of money.

Concer-

Concerning the raising of the Fortifications of *Tunningen* and *Stapelholm* Sconce, it was done not only out of the best intent in the world, but also out of unavoidable necessity. It is known what great jealousies these two places have always created between *Denmark* and *Holstein Gottorp*, although they could serve the Duke of *Gottorp* for nothing else than a great burthen, and happily for a retirement in time of War, which yet is never denyed him in any of his Majesties Strong-holds, whereof his Majesty hath lately given him expresse assurance. There was also a necessity to resolve upon the raising, because the *Gottorp* Lands cry out so earnestly for ease, and could not sustain any longer the great charge that was upon them for the maintenance of these Garrisons. And although the Country might have maintained them for a while; yet it would have been too heavy for his Majesty to keep always so many men idle in the said places to hold them. Besides this, his Majesty intended to shew unto all the world the good will he beareth to his dear Cozen, in slighting and leaving those places, which by vertue of agreement he might have kept in his hands; and by means of the same, might have maintained a sure foot in the midst of the *Gottorp* Lands, to the end, that all may see and judge, that his Majesty meaneth not to rob his dear Cozen of any of his Lands or Rights, or to cover any thing that is not his own. And for the same reason, his Majesty hath likewise caused his Garrison to be drawn out lately from the Castle of *Gottorp*, which by vertue of agreement he might have left there till the Peace was concluded, hoping he may thereby please his dear Cozen, and that he might not be troublesome to him in his own Residence. Neither was his Majesty debarred from demolishing of these places by the Agreement made at *Rensburg*, seeing that was so penned, that it implyeth no more but this, that *Holstein Gottorp* yielded them up freely to his Majesty, to possess them with his Garrisons, in certain hopes to have them

them restored again at the concluding of the Peace; but yet those hopes were never ratified by his Majesty with any one Letter or Syllable, and so he having promised nothing, was left to his own free choice, whether and in what manner he would afterwards restore the places, or no. Wherefore it is a wrong done to his Majesty, and his good intention is ill Interpreted, when on *Holstein Gottorps* behalf any grievance shall for this cause be alledged.

Thus, Sir, having given you of all things, as I hope, a sufficient Information, I will conclude, and recommend you to the Protection of God Almighty.

Datum Copenhagen the 29. of March, 1676.

F I N I S.
